



Department of Communications and Marketing

Town of Addison, Texas

Friday, August 17, 2012

West Nile Aerial Spraying Information

Updated at 2:20pm

West Nile Aerial Mosquito Spraying

- Weather permitting, aerial spraying is expected to begin tonight, Friday, August 17, in Addison, Farmers Branch, and Carrollton to control mosquitoes and help prevent the spread of West Nile virus
- Aerial spraying is planned from 8:30pm until 2:00am
- Planes will fly at approximately 300 feet. You may see planes flying this low at other times...these are practice passes for the pilots
- The aerial spray product poses no health threat and is from the same family of product used by Addison for ground spraying mitigation—it is approved by the EPA and CDC for use
- The aerial spraying times were chosen because that is the peak flying time of the targeted female mosquito
- Aerial spraying is considered to be an effective and safe way to kill adult mosquitoes in large, densely populated areas

For people concerned about exposure during aerial spraying, health officials suggest the following precautions:

- During aerial spraying people are encouraged to avoid being outside and keep windows closed
- Please keep all pets inside during the schedule aerial spraying (10:00pm-3:00am)
- The product breaks down quickly in sunlight and water so no special precautions are suggested, however, the product can be easily cleaned from exposed skin or clothes with soap and water
- Homegrown fruits and vegetables should be rinsed with water as a general precautionary measure
- Cover small ornamental fish/Koi ponds, and bee keepers should cover and protect their hives

Contact Information

- The Dallas County West Nile website: <http://www.dallascounty.org/department/hhs/home.html>
- The Dallas County Public Information West Nile Updates: <http://www.dallascounty.org/westnile.php>
- Texas Department of State Health Services WNV Aerial Spraying Hotline, (817) 264-4612
- Please feel free to call the Town of Addison with any questions, (972) 450-7000

West Nile Prevention and Information

- Humans can contract West Nile virus from a mosquito bite. The virus can cause serious illness or death
- Residents are urged to reduce outdoor activity during evening and nighttime hours as this is peak mosquito flying and biting times
- When outside, cover arms and legs as much as possible and use a mosquito repellent with DEET
- Standing water should be eliminated promptly as mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as 7 days
- Breeding places for mosquitoes include birdbaths, potted plants, outside pet water bowls, swimming pools that are not kept clean, stagnant ponds, old tires, empty containers, toys, clogged rain gutters and French drains
- Texas has more than 400 state-confirmed cases of West Nile illness for 2012, including 17 related deaths
- Texas is on track to have the most cases of West Nile illness since the disease first emerged in the state in 2002
- Addison will continue its weekly street spraying through October

